of India Press for publication in the official Gazette seeking suggestions within 21 days. The draft Rules provides that "every licencee of a Blood Bank shall get sample of every blood unit tested for freedom from HIV aniibodiss from juch laboratories specified for the purpose by the Central Government. Date of performing this test shall be recorded on the label of the container also."

Purchase of Machinery for Ayurveda and Unani Pharmacists in Andhra Pradesh

781. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh for grant for purchase of machinery to be provided for Pharmacists in Ayurveda and Unani pending with the Government of India during the last one year; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Two Phar. maciea at Hyderabad (one each in Ayurveda and Unani) were approved for assistance under the Centrally .Sponsored Scheme of "Development of ISM Pharmacies including Herbal Farms and Drug Testing Laboratories in the State" dnring the years 1977-78 and 1982-83 respectively. Under the scheme, the pattern of assistance stipulates that assistance will be restricted to the minimum needs of the State Pharmacy not exceed, ing Rs 8.00 lakhs both for non-recurring and recurring expenditure including expenditure on purchase of machinery. The Ayurvda Pharmy at Hyderabad has been provided the maximum assistance cf Rs. 8.00 lakhs The other Unani Phar-macy has been provided as.Mstance upto Rs. 5.48 lakhs so far. This Pharmacy is eligible for further assistance of P.s. 2.52 lakhs in instalments on the basis of the progress achievsd.

Starting of P. G. Courses in Ayurveda System

782. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal sent by Government of Andhra Pradesh for starting P.G. courses in Darvyaguna and Vaisajyakalpaa of Ayurveda system is pending with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare if so, the details thereof;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay in electing the same; and

(c) when Government propose to clear these schemes;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Request for introduction of Post Graduate courses in Dravyaguna Rasa-tantra and Vhaishajya-kalpaa in the Government Ayurved College, Vijayawada was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in July, 1984.

(b) and (c) It is not possible to accept the proposal due to resource constraints.

Development of Atomic Energy for peaceful purposes

783. SHRT BHAGATRAM MANHAR - Will the PREME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India *k* one of the select group of nations to have mastered the technology for the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes;

(b) if so, what are the principal achievements in different areas of application of nuclear energy, particularly in industrial health and power;

(c) whether the Indian help has been sought by any other country to develop application of nuclear energy in such fields as power and industry; and

(d) if so the detail$_s$ thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINUTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SpXCE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Technology haj been developed in the country covering the entire range of activities from prospecting for atomic minerals, fabrication of nuclear fuel, setting up of nuclear power plants, reprocessing of spent fuel and management of wastes. Six nuclear power reactor's with tbe total installed" capacity of 1230 MWe are in operation and another reactor of 235 MWe at Narora will start producing power shortly. Indigenously produced radioisotopes are being used in about 330 Medical Institutions benefitting, about 6,00,000 patients annually. Cobalt-60 source$_s$ are supplied to cancer hospitals for Radiotherapy purposes. Medical pro-ductj are being sterilised using Gamma Radiation from Cobalt-60 sources. Radioisotopes sources, and Radiotracer Technique,; are used in industry for quality control and for effecting improvements in production processes. Radiation techniques are being used in agriculture for mutation breeding and are expected to be used for food preservation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Collaboration with ofher countries in the peaceful uses of atomic energy includes arranging workshops to share knowledge in utilisation of Radioisotopes and Radiation technologies in various fields. Training programmes hav$_e$ also been organised in Nuclear Physics. Operation and Maintenance of Research Reactors, Production and applications of Radioiso topes. Radiation Sterilisation of Medical products, Industrial Tracer Technology for the benefit of participants from coun tries of South East Asia and far Eastern Region.

Research on AIDS

784. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Mister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whetfief Tt is a fact that a well-known Indian Microbiologist working in the United States has cautioned India against wasting money in research an AIDS (Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome);

(b) whether it i$_s$ also a fact that according to this Microbiologist AIDS virus will not kill even 20 persons a year;

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government on thi$_s$ report; and

(d) whether the research o.i AIDS is continuing in spite of such warning and if so, the reason$_s$ thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) aild (b) The Government is aware of the news report stating that an Indian Microbiologist working in USA cautioned India against wasting money in research on AIDS.

(c) and (d) According to the information available with the WHO, AIDS has spread to all the countries over the world. As of 1st December, 1988, a cumulative global total of 129,385 cases cf AIDS has been reported to the World Health' Organization, Global Programme oh' AIDS. Global research efforts have been intensified to find out the extent of the disease, modes of transmission, drugs for treatment and vaccine3 for prevention *dt* AIDS.

For reasons yet unknown, India and other Asian countries have been affected least by the HIV infection. Only 29 rati blown cases of AIDS hav$_e$ been detected in India,